

**SCOTTSDALE AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NOISE ISSUES
15000 N. AIRPORT DRIVE, SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85260**

**JUNE 11, 2003
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Tinnan
Commissioner Mack
Commissioner Tom Guilfooy

STAFF: Gary Mascaro, Assistant Aviation Director, Administration
Chris Read, Assistant Aviation Director, Operations
Matt Johnson, Airport Specialist

PUBLIC: Ms. Sandy Lambert, Mr. Don Maxwell

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Tinnan called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL

A formal roll call confirmed members present as stated above.

MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes of the April 9, 2003 meeting

Commissioner Guilfooy made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2003 meeting and the minutes were approved with all in favor.

GENERAL BUSINESS

2. Council Subcommittee on Regional Aviation Issues – May 28, 2003 Meeting Review

Chairman Tinnan stated he attended the May 28th Council subcommittee meeting. He stated his concern that material was presented to the Council subcommittee that neither he nor other members of the Commission had seen prior to the meeting. Chairman Tinnan advised he voiced his concern to Mr. Gray and stated that perhaps they should disband the Commission noise sub-committee since their purpose in being created by the Commission Chairman was to provide an effective liaison between the Commission and the City Council, but if they are not forewarned or forearmed, it is difficult for them to do that. Chairman Tinnan added that Mr. Gray advised him from now on they would receive the same packet of information that is made available to City Council.

Chairman Tinnan asked staff to provide him an overview of the subjects they dealt with at the May 28th Council Subcommittee meeting.

Mr. Gary Mascaro advised the sub-committee that staff's goal is to provide them the packet of information for the next Council meeting advising them of what they will be presenting and ask for any comments the subcommittee may have so they can include them in the packet to the Council.

Mr. Mascaro then gave the sub-committee a brief overview of what staff presented to the Council sub-committee, which included production of an educational CD for the pilot outreach program, the Stage 2 operator survey, the voluntary curfew outreach letter campaign, the FAA Wings Seminar, the pilot noise abatement pledges (121 received to-date out of 600), community education outreach – Channel 11 video (which will also be available on the website), and the flight tracking system.

Additional discussion ensued regarding the substance of the educational CD, including any security information, the subcommittee's role in the process, and the quality of the final product.

In addition, the contract tower program documentation was presented to Council. Mr. Mascaro added they received direction from the Council to contact Sen. John McCain's office re. S.B. 824 to voice their opposition to the bill that would take away the option of the 218 remaining non-contract tower airports to enter the contract tower program if they wish to do so.

Chairman Tinnan inquired about the application process to acquire a contract tower and the associated funding. Mr. Mascaro explained the process and the status of their involvement to date. Mr. Mascaro also advised the Commission that staff will provide a more detailed overview of the contract tower acquisition process.

Mr. Mascaro provided an update on the North Valley radar and other current issues which involved correspondence to Council regarding issues related to aviation, noise, and safety.

Mr. Mascaro noted another item that was brought up at the Council sub-committee was the change in the noise complaint policy regarding calls from outside the grid area and the concerns from the Quiet Skies group. Mr. Mascaro stated staff clarified the process and that if they were a first-time caller, they would receive a return phone call, even if their complaint was outside the grid area.

Mr. Chris Read stated the new policy has enabled his operations staff to focus more time on pilot outreach programs and education, rather than staying at the desk handling noise complaints by phone.

3. Flight Tracking System RFP

Chairman Tinnan inquired if the Commission sub-committee could take a look at the RFP for the Flight Tracking System. Mr. Mascaro responded that he discussed this issue with Mr. Scott Gray, and was advised that the way the procedure goes, they cannot provide a draft to the sub-committee as that would become public information and would cause issues with the bidding process. He added they could provide them with a copy of the actual RFP package when it goes out to bid. Mr. Mascaro explained the items they are reviewing which they would like included in the RFP and they are in the process of hiring a consultant, HDR, to work with them in preparing the RFP.

Chairman Tinnan stated he is not so much interested in seeing a document as much as the technical specifications such as what it is, what's the technical scope and what are the options. Commissioner Guilfooy suggested an Executive Session to discuss the information and Mr. Mascaro responded he would have to discuss that with Mr. Paul Norman, Assistant City Attorney, to discuss if that would be possible.

A lengthy discussion continued regarding procurement of a flight tracking system, the sub-committee's role in the process, the need for technical information and specifications, and costs/funding associated with the system. Mr. Mascaro stated staff would provide to the Commission a bullet list of the concepts they are looking for in a flight tracking system. Chairman Tinnan stated they understand the concept but that doesn't leave them satisfied and he would like more technical information. Commissioner Guilfooy stated the citizens' expectations are for them to do something to track noise and if that feature isn't included in a base flight tracking system, then they shouldn't get it. Vice Chairman said he would like staff to get back to the Commission as soon as they can and provide them with a bullet-by-bullet presentation of the performance specifications on a flight tracking system. Mr. Mascaro responded staff would do that.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Sandy Lambert, private citizen, stated in the past she spoke to Mr. Kevin Shirer, former Planning & Environmental Coordinator at Scottsdale, for status reports regarding items on the website. Ms. Lambert inquired if the revised flight charts from the FAA that showing some outlying areas reclassified as congested rather than rural were put in place. Mr. Read responded he was not sure but would find out. Mr. Mascaro stated he believed the information was to be available in May, but would have to research and get back to Ms. Lambert.

Ms. Lambert stated she has information from the website regarding the Part 150 Study, but would like to know if they have the grant offer and what is the status. Mr. Mascaro responded he spoke to the FAA yesterday and was told they programmed the Part 150 money and they are hoping to get a tentative

allocation letter sometime this month. Once the letter is received, they can bring it to the Commission and City Council for approval. Mr. Mascaro anticipates it might go to Council in the August/September timeframe.

Ms. Lambert inquired about the flight tracking system and what was their best timeline estimate for the RFP process. Mr. Mascaro responded they plan to have Purchasing issue the RFP and have the bids out by early August. Allowing time for recommendations and Commission and Council review/approval, they would hope to be able to purchase a system by November.

Ms. Lambert inquired about the radar service and stated she is confused between ASR8 and ASR11. She asked when they anticipate having some kind of radar in Scottsdale. Mr. Mascaro responded there are two scenarios regarding radar. One is the Williams Gateway radar that they are trying to digitize and see if they can feed it through Phoenix TRACON to see if they can provide low radar coverage, however they are having some technical difficulties and should know within the next 60-days or so if it will work or not. If it does work the earliest it would be in place would be March of 2004.

Mr. Mascaro stated the other radar service would be brand new and they are pushing to have it moved up. That system would be up north to help Deer Valley and Scottsdale. Mr. Mascaro offered to provide a copy of the memo that explains it all. Ms. Lambert stated that would not be necessary.

SUBCOMMITTEE COMMENTS

Commissioner Mack inquired once you track the violators, listen to their noise, know their altitude and whatever else they are doing what is the punishment? Chairman Tinnan stated the whole program they have been following has been one of seeking extraordinary, voluntary participation in the program. He added sometimes pilots may not always realize their noise is impacting residents below them. Chairman Tinnan stated having the correct information, being able to contact an offender, and seeking future compliance is what they can do. They cannot punish them, cannot fine them, cannot deny them use of the airport, unless it was a conscious deliberate violation. Commissioner Mack voiced his concern that once they have a tracking system the public perception is going to be that all of the noise is going to go away. Chairman Tinnan said it is up to them to make the public aware this is not a magic wand to make the noise go away. Commissioner Guilfooy stated there are a number of relationships that they have to develop, along with a number of contingent steps that have to be done and it is not just a system or a piece of software.

Mr. Mascaro stated the primary purpose of the system from staff's perspective is to help educate and instead of making an assumption of how high or how noisy a plane was, we would have a tool to determine that. Mr. Mascaro said he wished to state for the record that staff is supportive of getting the "Cadillac" system so they will have more tools to educate the citizens and to help educate the pilots. Mr. Mascaro added that it has come to their attention that most of the pilots are interested and willing to help in noise abatement efforts, and most pilots have been receptive to their comments and want to work with the community. However, pilots do have to follow the ATC / TRACON instructions as to where they should be and at what altitude, so at times there are special circumstances that have to be taken into consideration.

Chairman Tinnan inquired when the next City Council subcommittee meeting would be held. Mr. Mascaro responded that the meeting scheduled for Wednesday was cancelled. However, Councilwoman Lukas and John Little discussed having a joint meeting with the Commission subcommittee on July 9th at 5:00 p.m. and to move the Airport Advisory Commission to start at 7:00 p.m. following the joint subcommittee meeting. This is tentative at this point.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Tinnan adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana M. Maggiola
Administrative Secretary